



Womanspace East, Inc.
Serving Families in Crisis

Donor Newsletter

Summer 2022

32 years of supporting women and families facing homelessness in Allegheny County

Womanspace East, Inc. was founded by women living in Pittsburgh's East Liberty neighborhood in 1976 to address a need in their community to provide support to other women experiencing homelessness. Children and relatives of our founders still serve on our Board of Director's today.

In 1991, the shelter moved from a townhouse in East Liberty to a building in Uptown with 10 shelter rooms and six bridge housing apartments. In 2001, we were able to expand our building to add an additional four apartments. In 2016, funding for the bridge housing program ended and we transitioned to housing whole families experiencing homelessness.



Today the shelter houses 26 families, as many as 75 individuals, every month. Last year, 96% of the families we supported found permanent housing.

Our mission is to address the needs of homeless families by providing vital services that embrace a holistic approach to crisis resolution and treatment by addressing the needs of the total family and providing vital support services where the family can find support, guidance, and redirection to make them contributing members to the community again. We also dream of a future where we can fully fund transitional housing programs once more.

"The support and services my family received while living in shelter helped prepare me for living independently. The staff at Womanspace East supported me through my roughest time and I am so grateful for the help and support that I got."

- Former Womanspace East Resident



Get to know us



Womanspace East Board Member,
Ruth A. Still

Longtime board member Ruth Still found her passion to support homeless women and families through her work in Allegheny County's family courts.

"Womanspace East is more than a shelter," she says. "They really look at the whole person. They give them the tools they need to succeed, not only a place to stay." On-site case managers help remove barriers and connect families with resources. After school programs at the shelter help kids achieve in school while their parents are able to work and save money for permanent housing.

At the heart of Womanspace East is dedicated staff, many of whom have worked here for a very long time. "The staff are extremely dedicated in helping out clients and their children to feel safe and less stressed when they come to our shelter."

Spaces to grow

Our shelter is more than a place to live, it is a home to grow. Families live in community and take pride in our spaces and each other. This summer, our youngest residents planted flowers outside the building.



The good you create

Mona* was a single mom who entered our shelter after fleeing an abusive relationship. That relationship not only left her homeless and depressed, but she was also facing criminal charges because of the tumultuous situation. Because of the pending charges, Mona was continuously denied for income-based housing.



Mona was in shelter for a year while she waited for her court case to be settled, all the while battling severe depression. She secured a job, one that she still holds today. All of Mona's charges were dropped and she was able to secure permanent housing where she and her daughter still reside. Mona's mental health has greatly improved in the security of her new home. *name and image has been changed